

REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing and reconsideration of the application identified in caption, as amended, pursuant to and consistent with 37 C.F.R. §1.111 and in light of the remarks which follow, are respectfully requested.

By the above amendments, claim 48 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claim 49 has been amended for readability purposes.

At the outset, Applicant and Applicant's representative thank Examiner Sergent of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office for his time and consideration in participating in a telephonic interview with Applicant's representative on April 30, 2009. The Interview Summary issued on May 4, 2009, accurately reflects the substance of the interview.

During the interview, Applicant's representative explained that the §112, second paragraph, rejection of claims 48 and 49 set forth in the Official Action dated September 2, 2008, was rendered moot in view of the Amendment filed on January 2, 2009. Specifically, Applicant's representative noted that the Examiner had taken the position that claims 48 and 49 were indefinite because "it is unclear how the claimed methods . . . allow for the aforementioned amendment to claim 23." The amended language of claim 23 which was objected to by the Examiner, however, was deleted in the Amendment filed on January 2, 2009. Since claim 23 no longer recites the language giving rise to the §112 rejection, the rejection of claims 48 and 49 is moot.

In response to the above comments, the Examiner took the position that it is unclear how the process of claim 48 yields the polyisocyanates of claim 23, "Since the polyisocyanates require a masked group." See Interview Summary. Without addressing the propriety of the Examiner's comments set forth in the Interview

Summary, and in an effort to expedite prosecution, claim 48 has been canceled by the above amendments.

Accordingly, further and favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance is believed to be next in order, and such action is earnestly solicited.

If there are any questions concerning this paper or the application in general, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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